



TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE DISTRICT

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Texas Southmost College District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees

Francisco G. Rendon
Chair

Adela G. Garza
Vice Chair

Trey Mendez
Secretary

Robert A. Lozano, M.D., Ph.D.

Reynaldo García, DDS

René Torres

Ramon Champion Hinojosa

June 21, 2012

The Board of Trustees of the Texas Southmost College District convened in open session on June 21, 2012, at 5:30 p.m., in the Gorgas Board Room at Texas Southmost College. Board members present were Francisco G. Rendon, Chair; Adela G. Garza, Secretary; Trey Mendez; René Torres; Ramon Hinojosa and Dr. Reynaldo García. Also present was Dr. Lily F. Tercero, President of Texas Southmost College. Board member absent was Dr. Robert Lozano.

TSC President

Lily F. Tercero, Ph.D.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rendon at 5:30 p.m.

2. Announcements

There were no announcements.

3. Speakers to Agenda Items and Public Discussion

There were no speakers.

4. Mission Statement

Chairman Rendon read the existing mission for Texas Southmost College District as follows:

“Texas Southmost College is a comprehensive open admissions public community college whose mission comports with Texas Statute Subchapter A, Section 130. Texas Southmost College offers programs leading to certificates of completion and associate degrees, developmental education to prepare students for college-

level work, occupational and technical programs to prepare students for immediate employment, academic courses of study to develop the core skills, understandings, and knowledge appropriate for baccalaureate programs, and continuing education, counseling, guidance, adult literacy and personal enrichment.

Texas Southmost College advances economic and social development, enhances the quality of life, encourages respect for the environment, cultivates personal enrichment, and expands knowledge in service to its community. It convenes the cultures of its community and fosters an appreciation for the unique heritage of the Lower Rio Grande Valley. It provides academic leadership in the intellectual, social, cultural, and economic life of the region it serves.

Texas Southmost College places excellence in teaching and learning at the core of its commitments. It seeks to help students at all levels develop the skills which will sustain life-long learning while respecting the dignity of each learner and the needs of the entire community.”

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Consideration and Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 21, 2012, the Special Meeting on May 31, 2012, and the Special meeting on June 12, 2012

A motion was made by Mr. Mendez to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 21, 2012, the Special Meeting on May 31, 2012 and the Special Meeting on June 12, 2012 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Torres and carried. Mrs. Garza abstained.

6. Election of Officers of the Board of Trustees

Consideration and Approval of Election of Officers of the Board of Trustees: Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary

Chairman Rendon opened the floor for nominations and discussions for the election of officers. Mrs. Garza made a nomination for Mr. Rendon to continue as Chairman. Mr. Mendez made a nomination for Mrs. Garza to serve as Vice Chair. Mrs. Garza made a nomination for Mr. Mendez to serve as Secretary.

A motion was made by Dr. García to approve the election of officers of the Board of Trustees as nominated. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hinojosa and carried unanimously. Exhibit “A”

7. TSC District Trustee Scholarship

Consideration and Approval of the TSC District Trustee Scholarship

Chairman Rendon called on Dr. Tercero to present the item. Dr. Tercero reported that in the fall of 1991 and spring 1992 the in-district tuition of TSC was \$14 dollars per semester credit hour, with a minimum charge of \$70 dollars. When the partnership was formed in 1992, a well-defined distinction between students taking lower division classes and students taking upper division courses continued because UTB was initially authorized in 1991 by the State of Texas to only offer upper division courses.

From the beginning of the partnership, the TSC Board of Trustees recognized the importance of maintaining lower tuition rates for in-district community college students. Those students were defined as students taking the lower division courses and were very easy to distinguish.

To ensure that these in-district students did not pay the university tuition rate, the TSC Board of Trustees began transferring funds to UTB at the inception of the partnership so that these students could receive a "tuition subsidy". The level of support provided by this tuition subsidy was fifty-eight percent of the upper level tuition rate. This action allowed for separate tuition tables to be maintained within the partnership.

In 1997, the 75th Legislature passed Senate Bill 274, authorizing UTB to offer lower-division courses. While the classification of TSC students became more complicated; the "tuition subsidy" continued to be provided by the TSC Board of Trustees and different tuition tables continued to be maintained.

In June 2007, the UTB/TSC Academic Affairs Partnership Committee recommended that the TSC Board of Trustees consider changing the manner in which it was providing the tuition subsidy to in-district students.

Based on the committee's recommendation, in September 2007, the TSC Board of Trustees approved converting the tuition subsidy into a TSC Trustee Scholarship. Additionally, the eligibility criteria changed. The TSC Board of Trustees began providing financial assistance to not only in-district students taking lower division courses who were meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress standards, but also in-district students taking 15 or more semester credit hours in upper division courses during the spring and fall semesters, who were meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress standards. The amount approved was \$19 dollars per semester credit hour and became effective in spring 2008. Additionally, this item

was scheduled to be reviewed each year by Board of Trustees during the annual budget cycle.

As part of the annual review process, the Board of Trustees has the option of continuing or changing this previously approved board action. Dr. Tercero stated that the Board has the option of: Changing the amount of the subsidy provided, changing the criteria and eligibility, and/or changing how the subsidy is defined.

Given that TSC and UTB are on a path of becoming operationally independent by fall 2013, the TSC staff recommended that the Board of Trustees continue to provide financial assistance, at the current rate of \$19 per semester credit hour, to in-district students (those students residing in TSC's taxing district) who are taking Career and Technical Education courses and Developmental Education courses and meeting the Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards as previously defined, and that this financial assistance be provided in the form of a tuition subsidy for the fall 2012 and spring 2013 semesters, after which time the tuition subsidy will no longer be offered.

Dr. Tercero stated that this change will provide TSC students with direct assistance from the College as it moves to becoming operationally independent. In the next few months, staff will be bringing forth recommendations regarding tuition rates. While the tuition rate has not yet been determined, the rate will be lower than what students attending UTB/TSC are currently paying. Dr. Tercero additionally reported that discussions were held last year with the UT Transition Team members regarding this issue and the possibility that this tuition subsidy would likely change during this budget cycle.

A motion was made by Mr. Torres for the Board of Trustees to provide financial assistance, at the current rate of \$19 per semester credit hour, to in-district students who are taking Career and Technical Education courses and Developmental Education courses and meeting the Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards as previously defined, and that this financial assistance be provided in the form of a tuition subsidy for the fall 2012 and spring 2013 semester, after which time the tuition subsidy will no longer be offered as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hinojosa and carried unanimously.

8. Proposal for Parking Lot and Sidewalk Repairs

Consideration and Approval of Proposal for Parking Lot and Sidewalk Repairs

Chairman Rendon called on Mr. Chet Lewis, Vice President for Administration and Finance to present the item. Mr. Lewis reported that TSC requested

proposals from qualified contractors for Parking Lot and Sidewalk Repairs. The requested services included repairing damaged asphalt in distinct parking lot areas and removing and replacing existing sidewalks and/or pavers around campus as needed. Mr. Lewis reported that three responses were received from: Joe Ibarra Construction, G&T Paving, LLC, and FJW Construction, LLC.

Mr. Lewis reported that based on the best value for the College, the staff's recommendation is to accept the bid from FJW Construction, LLC. He also added that the proposal received from FJW Construction, LLC indicated voluntary pricing stating that if there were projects that were larger, the price will be lower.

A motion was made by Mrs. Garza to select FJW Construction, LLC to provide parking lot and sidewalk repairs and authorize the President to execute a contract for one year according to the requested scope and unit price as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mendez and carried unanimously. Exhibit "B"

9. Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2012

Consideration and Approval of Budget Amendment Fiscal Year 2012

Chairman Rendon called on Mr. Lewis to present the item. Mr. Lewis stated that the budget amendment is to increase the amount of General Institution for Consulting for Phase I of Information Technology Dynamic Campus.

A motion was made by Mr. Torres to approve Budget Amendment #12-004 for Fiscal Year 2012 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hinojosa and carried unanimously. Exhibit "C"

10. Report on the Third Quarter Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2012

Mr. Lewis provided a brief report on the Third Quarter Financial Statements and Investment Report for FY 2012. Mr. Lewis stated that the reports are provided for informational purposes only, and no action is required by the Board.
Exhibit "D"

11. Proposed Meeting Dates

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Rendon at 5:57 p.m.



Mr. Francisco G. Rendon
Chairman, Board of Trustees



Mr. Trey Mendez, J. D.
Secretary, Board of Trustees

NOTE: The tape of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held on June 21, 2012, is on file at the District Office of the Texas Southmost College District. The master tape is on file at UTB/TSC Media Services. These minutes were taken and transcribed by Max E. Roca, Administrative Assistant. Videotaping of the Board of Trustees' meetings began on April 11, 1996. They are aired on Channel KBSD in cooperation with the Brownsville Independent School District.